

**LUMPKIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA**

Park & Recreation Community Center
365 Riley Road
Dahlonega, Georgia
August 16, 2005
9:00 A.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gooch

II. INVOCATION

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- July 22, 2005 Regular Meeting
- July 22, 2005 Special Called Meeting
- July 28, 2005 Special Called Meeting
- August 1, 2005 Special Called Meeting
- August 9, 2005 Special Called Meeting

V. REPORTS

- Department Heads
- Elected Officials

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- RESOLUTIONS
 - 2005-43 Hotel/Motel Ordinance Amendment
 - 2005-44 Abandonment of Certain County Property Not Economically Salvageable
 - 2005- Authorizing the Transmittal of the Comprehensive Plan for Lumpkin County
- CONTRACTS
 - Auraria Community Clubhouse – Auraria Lease of Polling Place
 - Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church Fellowship Hall – Chestatee Lease of Polling Place
 - Phillipi Community Center – Crumby Lease of Polling Place
 - Steve Davis Towing – Davis Lease of Polling Place
 - Damascus Church Fellowship Hall – Frogtown Lease of Polling Place
 - St. Paul's United Methodist Church – Martin's Ford Lease of Polling Place
 - R & R Auction & Mini-Storage, Inc. – Porter Springs Polling Place
 - Wahoo Community Center – Wahoo Lease of Polling Place
 - Wright Express – State Fuel Card Program
 - Georgia Natural Gas Agreement
- OTHER ITEMS

**LUMPKIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA**

**Park & Recreation Community Center
365 Riley Road
Dahlonega, Georgia
August 16, 2005
9:00 A.M.**

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS
- CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS
- COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS
- COUNTY ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS
- PUBLIC COMMENTS

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Board Meetings:

- Board Work Session – City Hall
- Board Meeting – City Hall
- Board Work Session – City Hall
- Board Meeting – City Hall

Sept. 1st, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Sept.. 15th, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

Oct. 6th, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Oct. 20th, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Public Hearings:

- Proposed 2006 Budget - Courthouse
- Notice of Property Tax Increase - Courthouse
- Notice of Property Tax Increase - Courthouse
- Notice of Property Tax Increase - Courthouse

Aug. 25th, 2005 at 3:30 p.m.

Aug. 25th, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.

Aug. 26th, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Aug. 29th, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

IX. ADJOURN

Chairman Gooch

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
LUMPKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

August 16, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gooch at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners present were Stephen Gooch, John Raber, Deborah Hutcheson, Clarence Stowers and Marvin Martin. Commissioner Martin opened the meeting with prayer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The board heard comments from citizens who live along Rocktree Road. The citizens that spoke were opposed to the development of a new subdivision made up of a tract of land divided by Rocktree Road. Rocktree Road is a narrow road located off Rock House Road. Mr. Chad Williams, a member of the group developing the new subdivision, agreed to work with county staff members and to submit a plan for upgrading Rocktree Road.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

John Raber made a motion to adopt the agenda with an amendment to add Whitewater Trail. This motion was seconded by Clarence Stowers and approved by all district commissioners present.

Marvin Martin made a motion to amend the agenda to include a resolution to authorize the abandonment of county buildings no longer used as polling places. This motion was seconded by John Raber and approved by all district commissioners present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Deborah Hutcheson made a motion to postpone approval of the minutes until the board has an opportunity to review the minutes. This motion was seconded by John Raber and approved by all district commissioners present.

REPORTS

Reports were presented by Department Heads and are on file in the Board of Commissioners Office.

Finance Director Allison Martin announced that the tentatively adopted millage rate will increase property taxes by 14.91 percent in Lumpkin County Unincorporated and 21.31 percent in Lumpkin County Incorporated, and that the tentatively adopted millage rate for Lumpkin County Unincorporated Special Tax District No. 1 will be 0.411 mills. Public hearings will be held on the proposed tax increases.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2005-43

Chairman Gooch read a resolution to restate the imposition of the Lumpkin County Hotel-Motel Tax and to specify the specific article of the official code of Georgia, annotated on which the ordinance relies for the power to so impose the tax. The imposition of the tax shall continue to be under the authority of O.C.G.A. Section 48-13-51(a)(3), with the five percent tax imposed thereby to be used for the purpose of promoting tourism, conventions and trade shows.

John Raber made a motion to approve this resolution. The motion was seconded by Clarence Stowers and approved by all district commissioners present.

RESOLUTION 2005-44

Chairman Gooch read a resolution to authorize the abandonment of certain county property not economically salvageable. The properties to be abandoned are small wood buildings that are no longer used as polling places. The buildings include Frogtown Precinct Voting House, Hightower Precinct Voting House, and Porter Springs Precinct Voting House.

Marvin Martin made a motion to approve this resolution. The motion was seconded by John Raber and approved by all district commissioners present.

RESOLUTION 2005-

Chairman Gooch read a resolution authorizing the transmittal of the Comprehensive Plan for Lumpkin County to the Georgia Mountains Regional Development Center for review, comment, recommendation, and certifying that minimum local plan public participation requirements have been met.

Clarence Stowers made a motion to approve this resolution with the condition it does not contain the 150-foot buffer. Deborah Hutcheson seconded the motion. A brief discussion by the board followed. Clarence Stowers then made a motion to rescind his motion until the board has had a chance to review the Comprehensive Plan. No action was taken.

CONTRACTS

Lease of Polling Places

Contracts prepared at the request of the Lumpkin County Board of Elections to lease property to be used as a voting place or polling place. The cost of the lease is \$100.00 for each special or general election at which any Lumpkin County elector cast a vote in a county, state or federal election at which voting is approved for the named polling place.

Auraria Community Clubhouse – Auraria Lease of Polling Place
Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church Fellowship Hall – Chestatee Lease of Polling Place
Phillipi Community Center – Crumby Lease of Polling Place
Steve Davis Towing – Davis Lease of Polling Place
Damascus Church Fellowship Hall – Frogtown Lease of Polling Place
St. Paul's United Methodist Church – Martin's Ford Lease of Polling Place
R & R Auction & Mini-Storage, Inc. – Porter Springs Polling Place
Wahoo Community Center – Wahoo Lease of Polling Place

A motion was made by John Raber to approve these contracts. The motion was seconded by Clarence Stowers and approved by all district commissioners present.

Wright Express (WEX) – State Fuel Card Program

Enrollment in the State of Georgia fuel card program supplied through Wright Express (WEX). The fuel card program is at no cost. The program will provide free Internet access to all county account transaction data via WEX On-line by authorized Lumpkin County personnel. Authorized personnel will be required to use a password and user identification issued by WEX.

A motion was made by Clarence Stowers to approve this contract. The motion was seconded by Marvin Martin and approved by all district commissioners present.

Georgia Natural Gas Agreement

This agreement is for natural gas service between South-Star Energy Services, LLC d/b/a Georgia Natural Gas and Lumpkin County Government. Price from September 2005 through August 2006 GNG's Market Index Price per therm plus \$0.04 per therm.

A motion was made by John Raber to delay approval of this contract until we have received more information. The motion was seconded by Deborah Hutcheson and approved by all district commissioners present. No action was taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

Whitewater Trail in Copper Ridge

Chairman Gooch recused himself from this subject do to his employment with the Norton Agency. Kathryn Farmer, of the Norton Agency represented the owner of lots 80 and 81 as plated, located along Whitewater Trail in Copper Ridge Subdivision. Ms. Farmer requested road abandonment of the turnaround area on lot 81.

Vice Chairman Hutcheson call for a motion. John Raber made a motion to abandon the turnaround area on lot 81 located on a portion of Whitewater Trail, but retain the 60' right-of-way. The motion was seconded by Clarence Stowers and approved by Commissioners Raber, Stowers, and Martin.

OLD BUSINESS

COUNTY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

County Manager Kelley reminded the board of the Citizens Leadership Alliance on September 13 and 14, 2005 at the Brasstown Valley Resort. The Dahlonega Lumpkin County Chamber of Commerce and North Georgia College & State University have launched the Citizens Leadership Alliance with the goal of a common vision for Dahlonega and Lumpkin County.

Mr. Kelley said that he received an e-mail from Lyn Hopper, Director of the Chestatee Regional Library, regarding the library budget cuts. Ms. Hopper's e-mail stated that the library would need an additional \$17,016.00 to meet the state's requirement for Maintenance of Effort in FY06. Mr. Kelley said he would go to the Library Board and find out if they have the money in their contingency to cover the additional funding needed.

Mr. Kelley stated that a copy of the proposed changes to the Lumpkin County Subdivision Regulations involving easements was included in the notebooks. Mr. Kelley asked Planning Director Tim Shick to address the board with his concerns regarding the proposed changes. Discussion followed.

Deborah Hutcheson made a motion to extend the provision to suspend enforcing Section 605 of the Subdivision Regulations until October 1, 2005, and that a new document be prepared for review at the next work session on September 1, 2005. The motion was seconded by Marvin Martin and approved by all district commissioners present.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Gooch ask Mayor McCullough who was in attendance at the meeting if there was anything new on the reservoir. Mayor McCullough stated that county needed to adopt an ordinance to establish a reservoir management plan for the county. This is needed to comply with requirements of the State of Georgia Environment Protection Division rules. The Mayor also stated that county should be receiving a response from the city to the county's August 1, 2005 proposal by the end of the week.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Raber ask Mayor McCullough to comment on the new traffic light at Morrison Moore Parkway and Pinetree Way. Mayor McCullough said that the Department of Transportation had placed the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection on its list of projects, and he hoped the county would help to finance the project.

Commissioner Raber expressed his viewpoint that the staff did a great job on the budget, but the budget is a train wreck waiting to happen. Commissioner Raber stated the commissioners should look down the road as a group at the whole picture. Commissioner Raber stated that there was not enough fat in the budget, and expressed a need for an expanded search by the commissioners to find more money.

Commissioner Hutcheson stated if we adopted a budget to meet needs there would be people who do not use all of the services provided. Commissioner Hutcheson expressed the need for the board to be proactive.

Chairman Gooch stated he felt the county needed to continue to invest in infrastructure to bring in more revenue.

Commissioner Stowers stated he just hates to raise taxes.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

No comments.

ADJOURN

Chairman Gooch asked for a motion to adjourn. John Raber made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. The motion was seconded by Clarence and approved by all district commissioners present.

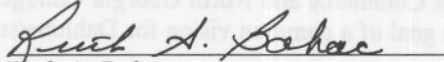
9-15-2005

Date


Stephen W. Gooch, Chairman

Lumpkin County Board of Commissioners

Attest:



Ruth A. Bohac

Clerk, Lumpkin County